Daylight savings time begins 2 a.m., Sunday, April 6. Turn clocks forward one hour before reťiring Saturday

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#### Published in the interest of the people of Aberdeen Proving Ground

#### **Post Shorts**

#### Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, April 9, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

#### Online resource for Operation Iraqi Freedom

An online reference for frequently asked questions about Operation Iraqi Freedom, to include supporting soldiers, mail, family related issues and locating soldiers is at http://www.army.mil/operations/iraq/faq.html.

#### Water system flushing to begin

Water system operators in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas will be performing annual flushing of the Aberdeen Proving Ground water systems during April. Signs will be posted in the housing areas announcing when flushing is planned or in progress.

Everyone's help is needed. Those living in government housing units are asked to flush their private quarters' systems after their area has been flushed, including hot water

Employees working in government buildings need to do the same.

Flushing the water systems is the first line of defense again brown water.

The normal full water system flushing in 2002 was reduced to conserve water. The only flushing performed was to reduce or eliminate reports of brown

#### Tax Center open thru April 15

APG's Tax Center remains open thru April 15. All active duty, retirees and their spouses are eligible for free tax preparation and free electronic tax filing. Call 410 278-1208 for an appointment. 1040 EZ filers can walk-in without an appointment on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 to 11

#### Town Hall meeting April 9

The Town Hall Meeting will be held April 9, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command Conference Center, building E-4810.

The meeting is open to the entire community. For those who are unable to attend, the meeting will

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### **ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS**

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Marine news

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Lifter breaks national record



## supports soldiers

Photo by SONYA P. **REYNOLDS** 

U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools soldiers gather around a free buffet table filling their plates with goodies, minutes before a USO Show presented by the Junior Girls Unit at the Dublin-Darlington VFW Post 10146. The show was in 'honor of the men and women who defend freedom every day.'(See story in next week's APG News.)

## APG advises 'Think OPSEC'

DLES

With the on-going conflict in Iraq and war against terrorism, Aberdeen Proving Ground shares a heightened concern regarding the release of sensitive personal information about service members outside Department of Defense, especially on the Internet. Army service members and DoD personnel should

be extremely careful when releasing sensitive personal information, such as social security numbers, addresses, etc., outside DoD. It is a good security practice not to share sensitive

information regarding military units outside DoD, to include operational unit locations and unit missions. In general, always "Think OPSEC" [Operational

Security] when releasing personal information, especially over the Internet where it may be stored in several computers and/or databases around the world. An example of this concern was raised by the

Army regarding a Web site, http://www.nacec.org/.

The Web site claims to provide "emergency notifications" to support military families. It asks for personal information about the service member and family members, to include social security numberr and family members' names and addresses.

While this Web site may have the best intentions to provide a patriotic service to members around the world, for OPSEC reasons, service members should not release this type of personal information to any organization outside DoD.

The DoD and U.S government have no way to protect personal information on computer systems and databases maintained by these organizations and an adversary could hack into the organization's computers and retrieve sensitive information about service members and their families.

This is, of course, in addition to all the concerns about identity theft that are raised when persons post personal information on the Internet.

Each military service branch has a notification program for service members and families to communicate in the event of an emergency. Service members should use these "official" DoD programs for contacting family members in an emergency.

To ensure proper protection of sensitive personal information about service members and their families.

Also, service members should consider the risk that might exist in disclosing their names during approved press interviews. Although it is unlikely that terrorists would use

this information to target them or family members, the possibility does exist. One option is to provide military rank and last

name only, and, another is to ask that their name not Assuming or not assuming this risk is up to the

## **5** Board announced

#### Deborah Craten Dawson

SBCCOM Adjutant

On June 5, the U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Meade, will convene a board for soldiers applying for attendance at the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School.

Along with the United States Military Academy and the Reserve Officer Training Corps, the Officer Candidate School remains an important source of commissioned officers for the Army.

Recently the Army has

increased the number of soldiers who may attend Officer Candidate School.

Candidates apply through local boards - Fort Meade for Aberdeen Proving Ground soldiers - and those selected begin a rigorous, 14-week course of instruction at Fort Benning, Ga.

APG soldiers who wish to become commissioned officers should prepare their applications early. The key prerequisites for eligibility are: • Be a citizen of the United

See BOARD, page 11

## OC&S salutes women

individual service member.

E.C. Starnes OC&S

A parade of uniforms from World War II to Desert Storm highlighted a special luncheon program conducted by the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools to celebrate Women's History Month.

The uniforms were modeled by female soldiers and were provided for the most part by the Women's Army Corps Veterans Association.

Col. Kone Brugh, OC&S chief of staff, opened the event and noted that women have served the military and in the military since the earliest days of the nation's history.

He noted that World War II was the turning

point for women in the military and the Ordnance Corps and Aberdeen Proving Ground were major supporters of the new role for women in America. He cited the many women who moved into nontraditional roles to support the war effort, to include the Women Ordnance Workers (WOWs).

He said that these women, and those who remained in their new roles following the war, captured a spirit of service to the nation.

He also noted that the guest speaker for the day, Command Sgt. Maj. Edith Crofts, "is the epitome of that spirit today."

Crofts, commandant of the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School's Noncommissioned Officer Academy, said that

See WOMEN, page 11

#### Watch card

#### Do observe and report:

mation.

• Unusual or suspicious activity or suspected surveil-

lance. • Unusual questions or requests for information relating to capabilities, limitations, or operational infor-

- Unusual vehicles operating in or around the installation.
- Unusual phone calls,
- messages, or e-mails. • Unusual contacts on or
- off post. Unusual aerial activity near or around installation.
- · Any possible compromise of sensitive information. Do not:
- · Discuss any aspect of military operations planning. • Discuss military capabil-
- ities or limitations. • Discuss force protection
- measures, capabilities, or • Disclose any information
- related to unit deployments. Report any suspicious activity immediately to DOD Police: Aberdeen Area 410-306-2222

Edgewood Area 410-436-2222 Off post in Maryland, call 1-800-492-TIPŠ (8477) The call may save lives.



### Families bond during Operation Yellow Ribbon

Photo by SONYA P. REYNOLDS

Military spouses Lisa Haack, left, and Tammy Lewis, with her two daughters, Shanise and Germanie, show support for service members by assisting in ribbon preparation and distribution at Operation Yellow Ribbon, sponsored by Army Community Service and Army Family Team Building, March 29. See story on page 2.

## men's History

## APG female heads DoD packaging school

Story and photo by Yvonne Johnson APG News

Few people realize that the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School has the Department of Defense School of Military Packaging Technology, which is located on Aberdeen Proving Ground, and that its dean is a woman.

Yvonne Anita Jackson, a native of Glen Burnie, Md., assumed the position as dean in 1999 after 16 years with the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools. The schools' fifth dean, Jackson is the first female and the first African-American to head the school.

A former high school science teacher, Jackson said she gained the will to expand her horizons and challenge herself from her mother.

"My mother was and still is the focal point in my life," Jackson said. "I wanted to join the Marines but she said I was going to get my college education or else. I could do anything I wanted after that."

She recalled how her mother worked alongside her father as they built the family home together and how they focused their children on the importance of education.

The turning point in her education was when her parents placed her in St. Francis Academy, a private, and all black Catholic school for girls in Baltimore.

"Since the school was all black, the only minority issue was that I was not Catholic and that I didn't live in Baltimore," Jackson said.

"Attending that school really broadened my horizons," she added, noting her Pentecostal upbringing. "I wasn't interested in becoming a Catholic, but I did want to learn all I could about it," she said. "If nothing else I had to get an 'A' in religion."

Jackson graduated from Morgan State University with a bachelor's in science education in 1968 and taught science at Harlem Park Jr. High School in Baltimore for five years. She also fulfilled her dream of joining the military and served in the Army for roughly 10 years.

In 1983, Jackson began working for OC&S, serving in "developmental jobs," that included teaching the Instructor Training Course and the Small Group Leader Development Course, serving as chief of the Staff and Faculty Development Division and working with Wilbert Davis in the Equal Employment Opportunity office. During this time, she earned a master's in business administration. Prior to assuming her current role, she was the assistant director of the OC&S Command and Staff department.

Jackson also teaches a Center for the Army Leadership course for military and civilian supervisors.

"The course is a real benefit. It gets you to evaluate yourself as a leader," Jackson said. "With my military background, I'm able to offer the military and civilian line of thought."

Jackson said she enjoys the challenge of 'opening doors that are closed" and encourages her instructors to promote that confidence in their students.

"The Bible says people perish for lack of knowledge," Jackson said. "I tell my people all you have to do is the right thing for the right reason. Anything besides that we can work out."

Jackson has one brother, retired Army Lt. Col. Jerome L. Jackson, who is currently on staff at Walter Reed's National Vaccine Healthcare Center. Her mother, Louise C. Jackson, at 80, is pursuing her doctorate in Christian education.

"She's the reason I was never in a situation where I believed I couldn't accomplish something because I was a woman," Jackson said of her mother, adding that she still teaches Sunday

"She showed me that you're never too old to learn.'

Because the SMPT is a "tough" course in which one failing test grade could mean expulsion, and because personnel of various ages and backgrounds attend, Jackson said that this is a lesson that must be reinforced.

"Accepting the challenge of expanding your mind is a principle we try to instill in all our students. We can't reach everyone, but we have to try," Jackson said.



Yvonne Jackson, left, dean of the School of Military Packaging Technology, helps student Lawrence E. Moseley of the Naval Service Warfare Center, Indianhead, Md., in one of several classrooms in building 360. Jackson is the first African-American female to head the Department of Defense school.

## Yellow ribbons show support for troops

Story and photo by **Sonya P. Reynolds** 

In honor of men and women who defend the United States of America, nearly 100 civilians, family members and soldiers, gathered to show support for troops by making and distributing yellow ribbons throughout the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

"Operation Yellow Ribbon," sponsored by Army Community Service and Army Family Team Building, with the assistance of the Boys and Girls Scouts of America, placed yellow ribbons on cars and trees and handed them out in the communities.

Participants who assisted in cutting and tying yellow ribbons said they felt it was the least that could be done to show appreciation for the soldiers.

"We came out to support our troops.

My husband is in the military," said nas, trees and other shrubbery around the Tammy Lewis, military spouse. "Even though my husband is not overseas fighting, we want the soldiers to get home safe and we want to let them know we are praying for them. This is the least we can do," she said.

Home child care provider and volunteer for ACS, Mitzy Ledford, said she came out to show support for her cousin who is currently overseas.

"I have a cousin in Kuwait and I have her kids here with me," Ledford said. "When the kids cry because they miss her so much, I cry too. They are 13 and 10 and they don't understand why she had to go."

Ledford said the children's mother has been gone for more than two months and this was the best way she knew to show support for the three of them, adding that she will also take a bag of yellow ribbons home and tie them around her car anten-

Although ACS expected a larger show of support, organizers were pleased with the turn out.

"We were happy with the response. We wish more people in the community could have come out to support the cause," said Celestine Beckett, ACS director, adding that for the most part they were excited to see the community get involved.

Beckett said that the event did have a great effect on the community, even for individuals that did not attend. She added that she has received many phone calls from people wondering when and if there would be another "Operation Yellow Ribbon."

Beckett said so far nothing has been planned but she will keep the community informed.



Army Community Service's Laura Reich, family advocacy prevention specialist, and Marge Fissel, Army Emergency Relief officer, cut yellow ribbons to distribute in the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas of Aberdeen Proving Ground for Operation Yellow Ribbon.

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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#### READING DAY



Photo by ELEANORE HAJIAN

Marjorie Warfield, a volunteer from the U.S. Army Environmental Center, reads to Suzie Kalthof's first-grade class at Edgewood Elementary School during Reading Day, held March 13. Warfield was one of 16 volunteers from the AEC who read to nearly 300 students in 17 classes during the event, which was sponsored through the center's partnership with the school.

## **Area Chapter of Test and Evaluation Association** awards three at APG, other agency

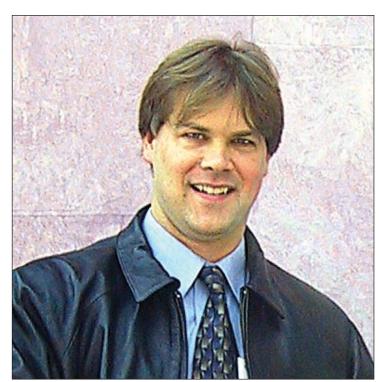


Photo courtesy of ITEA Dr. Gregory Schultz.

U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center

#### Mike Cast

The Francis Scott Key Chapter of the International Test and Evaluation Association presented three local engineers with awards Feb. 13 for significant achievements in support of the Army or other government programs.

The General Powers Award went to retired Brig. Gen. Dean Ertwine, who led the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command through its transition to the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command and helped reshape it into one of the foremost testers of Army's transformation technologies.

The award was named in honor of Maj. Gen. Patrick W. Powers, commander of TECOM from September 1975 to October 1978.

Dr. Gregory Schultz, a leading engineer with ATC Automotive Instrumentation Team, received the Test and Evaluation Professional of the Year Award for his work at ATC over the past several years. Among his other accomplishments, he was lauded for his role in the construction of the Roadway Simulator, ATC's multi-million dollar automotive test facility scheduled to begin operations this spring.

Michael Janus, who manages the Engineering Products and Services Group at the Battelle Eastern Science and Technology Center in Aberdeen, earned the chapter's Young Test and Evaluation Professional Award for his efforts on behalf of the Department of Energy to improve fuel combustion. He was also cited for his support of projects designed to enhance chemical

and biological defense.

#### **Dean Ertwine**

Ertwine, currently vice president of the Army Science and Technology division of the Battelle Eastern Science and Technology Center, devoted much of his more than 30-year career to military testing and evaluation.

He assumed command of DTC in February 1999 and helped maneuver it through a major realignment as the Pentagon established the new U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command in October of that year. As his chain of command transferred from the U.S. Army Materiel Command to ATEC, Ertwine steered DTC on its new course and helped it develop a strategic plan to enhance support for its test customers, primarily the program managers of major Army and Defense Department weapon systems. He also oversaw the move of test programs from Panama to U.S. owned facilities in Hawaii and Puerto Rico

Under Ertwine's leadership, DTC found innovative ways to integrate the technical testing of military systems still under development with the type of tests that soldiers later put these systems through to determine their effectiveness in the hands of military operators. Ertwine oversaw the application of DTC's diverse modeling and simulation capabilities, known collectively as the Virtual Proving Ground, to combine this developmental and operational testing, saving test customers time and money. During his command, DTC completed more than 1,700 developmental test programs for the Army and other Department of Defense organizations.

He is also credited with helping DTC strengthen its collaborative efforts with ATEC's other two sub-commands, the Operational Test Command, headquartered at Fort Hood, Texas, and the Army Evaluation Center, co-located with ATEC in Alexandria, Va.

The award nomination cited Ertwine's many contributions to other military organizations or agencies involved with the acquisition of weapon systems and equipment.

As a deputy to the commanding general of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command at Fort Monmouth, N.J., he managed the development, testing, acquisition, product improvement and fielding of high-tech equipment used for elec-

While an executive officer for the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research, Development and Acquisition, he oversaw more than 400 development and procurement programs as well as a science and technology program that exceeded \$1 billion.

He was a lieutenant colonel in charge of materiel testing at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah, during Operation Desert Storm, and he is credited with "exceptional" support of the war effort through test programs at Dugway.

He also received kudos in the award nomination for his efforts as commander of the Army's Cold Regions Test Center at Fort Greely, Alaska, and for maintaining high standards of test and evaluation support despite force reductions there.

#### **Dr. Gregory Schultz**

Schultz, who earned his engineering PhD doing research in the field of hybrid-electric vehicles, received accolades in the award nomination for a variety of high-profile projects at ATC.

Schultz began his career in 1988 as a test director in the Combat Vehicles Division of ATC, testing the automotive and fire-control performance of the M-1 tank. As the manager of ATC's tank firing range for four years, he re-engineered test instrumentation and developed improved techniques for recording the vehicles' fire-control performance. He also helped ATC develop improved facilities for testing the fire-control performance of these combat systems.

Since August 1995, when he took on the job of leading more than 30 engineers and technicians in ATC's Automotive Instrumentation Team, Schultz has played a key role in developing enhanced instrumentation for automotive testing. Among other achievements, he developed test methodologies for the New Car Assessment Program/Consumer Braking Initiative sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administra-

For the past couple of years, he has worked closely with the MTS Systems Corp., of Eden Prairie, Minn., to bring the Roadway Simulator to APG. When completed, the new facility will be the world's largest flat-track roadway simulator, able to operate and test vehicles ranging in size from passenger cars to tractor-trailer rigs in a controlled laboratory environment. The facility will help testers determine such vehicle characteristics as braking, steering, handling, stability, fuel economy, emissions, power-train performance, vibration and ride quality.

Schultz recently received a patent for a hybrid-electric vehicle transmission and has a second patent pending.

#### **Michael Janus**

Janus, who directs a staff of 50 engineers and scientists for the Battelle Memorial Institute, received his award for managing diverse test and evaluation programs.

While a principal research scientist for Battelle from 1997 to 1999 and a program manager from 1999 to 2001, he oversaw a variety of test and evaluation programs. These included efforts sponsored by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and Defense Threat Reduction Agency to provide chemical and biological protection for buildings. He is also involved with a project to protect the Pentagon from chemical, biological and radiological threats, as well as similar efforts to test and evaluate systems designed for chemical and biological detection and

During his six years with the Department of Energy, Janus managed projects designed to develop advanced energy and combustion systems. As the lead engineer and manager of a combustion laboratory during his final three years with the department, he designed, conducted and analyzed several exper-

While working to identify technology gaps in fuel combustion and chemical and biological defense programs, Janus earned three U.S. patents. He earned one patent for an improved fuel nozzle and method of operation, and another for a means of obtaining improved fuel combustion. In 2002 he earned a patent for developing a protective filtration system for enclosures within buildings.

#### **Post Shorts**

also be broadcast on APG Cable Channel 3. Briefing slides will be posted on the APG Web site on April 9.

Telephonic questions will be accepted during the Town Hall meeting via 410-436-7849. Prior to the meeting, questions will be accepted electronically. Send e-mails to linda.holloway@usag.apg.arm y.mil or call 410-306-4520.

#### Resident survey about stockpile, neutralization

A telephone survey of local residents will be conducted through April 14 to determine if the community has adequate information about neutralization of the mustard agent stockpile at the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility located in the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Because of the public's possible heightened security concerns during Operation Iraqi Freedom, the ABCDF is notifying the media to help assure those contacted that this is a legitimate survey to assess the effectiveness of outreach efforts about stockpile neutralization

For more information, contact the ABCDF Public Affairs Office, 410-436-5253; the Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, 410-676-6800; or the Public Outreach and Information Office, Office of the Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization, 410-436-4555/6137.

#### **Blue Cross/Blue** Shield service visit

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit Aberdeen Proving Ground on April 8, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

The representative will be available in the Aberdeen Area

building 305, room B-14 (lower level); and in the Edgewood Area, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in building E-4140, Recreation Center.

For more information, contact Teri Wright, 410-278-4331, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

#### Days of Remembrance set for April 29

The annual Days of Remembrance observance will be held April 29, 10 to 11 a.m. at the Post Theater.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has designated "For your freedom and ours" as the theme for the 2003 Days of Remembrance observance in honor of those who took a stand for freedom in 1943 against overwhelming

The guest speaker is holocaust survivor Ruben Szatjer. Born in Klobuhtz, Poland, on Feb. 28, 1926, Sztajer's journey began when the Jews were evacuated at the start of the war. Many returned or were sent back after a few months. Szatjer lived in the Klobuhtz ghettos from 1940 to 1942.

From April 1942 to June 1943, Szatjer lived and worked at Markstadt, a forced labor camp, then he was transferred to Funfteichen Concentration Camp where he was forced to participate in death marches.

Szatjer was eventually shipped to Bergen Belsen in 1944 and remained there until the British liberated the camp on April 15.

For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Serino at 410-278-1534.

#### 'Coping and Dealing with Stress' class offered

Parents are invited to attend an evening of stress relief 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., April 23 at the

only from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in AA Chapel. Child and Youth Services Outreach Services will sponsor Coping and Dealing with Stress. Guest speakers, hands-on exercises, handouts and goodies will be available. For more information, call Pat Palazzi, 410-278-7479, or Pat.Palazzi@usag.apg.army.mil.

#### Free Baltimore Inner **Harbor Seaport Day Passes**

With an Active Duty military ID, up to four family members (all with military IDs) may obtain a full day pass on the Seaport Taxi and visit the USS Constellation and the Baltimore Maritime Museum (includes U.S. Coast Guard Taney, U.S. Submarine Torsk, Lightship Chesapeake and Seven Foot Knoll Lighthouse). Passes are available at the Constellation Center or the National Historic Seaport Ticket Booth on the Aquarium Pier. For more information or for hours of operation, visit www.constellation.org, or call 410-539-1797: or www.baltomaritimemuseum, or call 410-936-3453. The free day pass offer is valid through April 30.

#### **KUSAHC** offers classes

The following classes will be held in the Behavioral Health Conference Room, located on the third floor at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Room 316. For more information and to register for classes, call Preventive Medicine, 410-278-1964.

#### Tobacco cessation

Classes are scheduled for four consecutive Thursdays, noon to 1 p.m., April 3, 10, 17 and 24. Pre-registration is required. All TRICARE PRIME beneficiaries are invited to attend.

#### **Asthma education**

Class is scheduled noon to 2 p.m. April 15, and includes an overview of asthma; triggers that may cause attacks or symptoms; preventing attacks; use of peak flow meter and MDI/spacer and developing a personal asthma action plan.

All TRICARE beneficiaries with a recent or long-term diagnosis of asthma and parent(s) or sponsor(s) of an asthmatic child are eligible to attend.

#### **Lunchtime lecture** series continues

The second lecture in the Lunchtime Lecture series, "The Art and Science of Troubleshooting," will be presented April 16, 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School Library (formerly the U.S. Army Ordnance Center & Schools Library), building 3071, lower level. The alternate date is April 23. Attendees can bring a lunch.

Guest lecturer Tracy Reeve of SmartFix Corporation will discuss the process of reasoning, acquisition and application of knowledge, and problem-solving methods used in fault diagnosis.

Attendees will receive a training certificate. To make a reservation, call 278-4991, or visit the library.

#### **Technology Expo,** April 24

The U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Information Management and The Corporate Information Office SBCCOM are co-hosting the Annual Spring Information Technology Products and Services Expo on April 24, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at Top of the Bay on Plumb Point Road.

Exhibitors include ACS, Brocade Communications, CCS Presentation Systems, CDW-G, Data Base Connection, Dell, Deployable Systems Inc., Gateway, GMR, GovConnection, GTSI, HP, IBM, iGov, MEDI, Metro Office Products, MPC (formerly Micron PC), NCI Information Systems, NEC Mitsubishi,

Electronics, Office Eagle, Panasonic, Professional Products Inc., Sharp Electronics, Staples Westwood Computer, Xerox, and more.

The expo is open and free to all Defense Department government or contractor personnel. Refreshments will be served.

For more information call Federal Direct Access Expositions toll-free 1-877-332-3976.

#### **ADAPT Course**

The Army Drug and Alcohol Prevention course will be held April 21 to 24, 5 to 7 p.m. and April 25, 5 to 9 p.m. All military families and civilian employees are invited to attend.

For more information, call Trov Denson at 410-278-3137.

#### Free medical billing class

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program will offer a free Medical Billing class, 1 to 4 p.m. every Monday, April 7 to May 12, in the Army Community Service Classroom.

The class provides a fundamental understanding of medical insurance billing and the life cycle of an insurance claim in relation to the physician's practice.

Attendees must attend ALL sessions to get a certificate of completion from Harford Community College.

Topics include: introduction to claims, preparation and submission, overview of major insurance carriers, insurance and accounts receivable management, overview of the use of information systems in the reimbursement process.

The class is open to all military family members with valid I.D. cards. For more information, call Marilyn Howard, Employment Readiness Manager, ACS, building 2754, 410-278-9669/7474. Anyone interested must register at the ACS building.

#### Orientation for newcomers scheduled

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Community Information Forum, formerly APG Newcomer Orientation, will be held at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, April 27, 1 to 3 p.m. All military and civilian personnel, retirees and their family members are invited to attend.

More than 55 representatives of support agencies/organizations will be present to discuss the latest information on their activities. Give-a-ways will be available and door prizes awarded.

For more information, call Godofredo Posadas, Family Well-Being Program manager, Army Community Service, 278-2453/7474.

#### **ACS hosts Waiting Families Support** Group

Army Community Service is sponsoring Waiting Families Support Group for family members whose sponsors are on extended temporary duty or on an unaccompanied tour stateside or overseas. The support group will meet the fourth Monday of every month from 7 to 8 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 2754, Rodman Road.

The next meeting is April

To arrange for child-care, call in advance, space is limit-

For more information, call Cheryl Harris, relocation assistant, at 410-278-7474.

#### **ROTC** celebrates anniversary

On April 18, the Howard University Army ROTC Program will commemorate its 85th anniversary and annual military ball at the Hilton Hotel in Silver Springs, Md.

For more information, call Maj. Timothy F. Johnson, Ph.D., at 202-806-6785 or e-Newark mail tfjohnson@howard.edu.

## APG 'volunteer of the year' nominations due

Marilyn Howard

The 30th Annual National Volunteer Week will be celebrated April 27 to May 3.

This year's theme, "Celebrate Volunteers the Spirit of America!" reflects the Army tradition of volunteerism, the spirit of neighbors helping neighbors, and the president's call to service

During National Volunteer Week individual organizations will salute dedicated volunteers, soldiers, retirees, civilians, spouses, and youth for their contributions and their commitment to service.

According to Secretary of the Army Thomas H. White and Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, they are truly the spirit of America, the spirit of the Army.

"Volunteers are one of the Army's most valuable resources," White said. "They are thoughtful, committed citizens who support and change our military communities by responding to a need."

Army volunteers are present in a broad range of organizations and activities where they inspire and mentor youth, support deployed soldiers and their families, assist in chapels and hospitals, and offer support when there is a tragedy.

"Volunteers are special people, and our communities would be very different places without their contributions," Shinseki added

Army Community Service will celebrate volunteers at Aberdeen Proving Ground May 19 to 23.

Nominations are being accepted until April 17 for the annual, Aberdeen Proving Ground "Volunteer of the Year" Award. Nominations should include all volunteer service in the APG community between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2002. Nominations must be received in the ACS Volunteer Office, building 2754, by April 17 to be considered.

Nomination packets will be available at Army Community Service, building 2754; Child and Youth Development Service, building 2752; Aberdeen Library, building 3320; Edgewood Library, building E-440 and Army Community Service, building E-4630.

Awards will be presented to the most outstanding Military, Retiree, Civilian, Family Member and Youth Volunteer at the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and Reception May 21, 7 p.m., at Top of the Bay. Everyone is invited to attend this annual event to recognize exemplary achievement in volunteer service at APG

For more information, call 410-278-9669/2453.

# Developmental Test Command plans June symposium

**Bob McDaniel** 

Test and evaluation personnel from across the Department of Defense's test community will participate in the 15th annual test technology symposium, or TTS 2003, during the week of June 23 in Las Vegas, Nevada, themed, "Distributed Testing for Systems of Systems (Joint, Service & Coalition)."

This distributed testing theme was chosen because the Department of Defense is now certifying that new military equipment will meet the needs of the armed forces on today's battlefields. New weapons and systems such as the Army's new Future Combat System, the new Joint Strike Fighter, and the Predator drone must work together on what is being referred to as a 'network centric' battlefield. This battlefield includes Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force systems in a coordinated operation such as what is being seen in Iraq.

New systems must fight as a team and be tested as a team. So, the services are devising new ways of creating a realistic

battlefield. A key part of the solution is distributed testing.

Modern communications networks allow simultaneous testing in different geographical locations, with computer inputs simulating the enemy from different locations. For example, a live ground test of an Army vehicle at Ft. Lewis, Wash., could be supported by a computer simulation of the enemy force in New Mexico and also linked to an air combat test at Nellis AFB in Nevada. The soldier/operator actually sees all the complexities of a real battle. Joint service tests and experiments (wargames) are becoming important in making decisions on whether to build and field a particular new weapon.

Top acquisition officials from the Army, Navy, and Air Force will participate. Typically, this event is also attended by technologists from the defense industry and international test officials.

The fact that new military equipment from the three services must operate in a joint battlefield supports high priority for expansion of distributed testing resources. The symposium will help to share the

knowledge on what tools and approaches have been most effective to date, and ideas for most fruitful areas for further research.

Divided into three sessions, the symposium will share knowledge on the Project Manager Environment, Creating the Test Environment (The Tools), and Joint Distributed Tests (Lessons Learned). Subject matter experts will explain how emerging weapons will use distributed testing and its specialized tools to provide a synthetic joint battlefield. Attendees will hear about recent experience with large test exercises such as Millennium Challenge 02 and the lessons learned.

Contractors are invited to arrive early on June 24 for a special Industry Day to hear about technology contracting opportunities. Both the Industry Day and TTS 2003 will be at the New York-New York hotel, which has blocked rooms at a very reasonable conference rate.

For more information and electronic registration, visit the Development Test Command Web site at www.dtc.army.mil.

# Commentary

# Lent is about understanding the walk of faith



Chaplain (Maj.) Stephen M. Russ Soldier and Family Ministries

Some of us misunderstand or do not practice the focus of Lent.

Lent is the time of year Christians refocus from the joy of Christmas and Epiphany to the sorrow and suffering of the Cross. Lent is about beginning finishing it.

Lent reminds us more than any other Christian season about suffering. We do not like to talk about suffering or the pain associated with it. Perhaps it is the reason most Christians want to jump from Christmas to the Easter Resurrection.

Life has moments and periods of time when suffering is at the forefront of one's human experience. We observe the one suffering with cancer or other illness and desire to relieve the pain. Suffering refines the individual and those close to it. Suffering rattles our life and we do not like it. We turn on the television and electronically are carried to the latest site of suffering on earth. We hear from a co-

a new journey and focusing on family member and our hearts turn heavy. The desire to turn off the television and close our ears rushes through our minds, in hope of distancing ourselves from the pain. Yet, when we open our eyes and ears, there is the reality of suffering.

The movie industry has made billions of dollars playing with the idea of suffering and the hero or heroine overcoming great odds to be victorious. We so desire, for some moments, relief from suffering. Some have decided to live in a fantasy world of their making in order not to deal with suffering. Others have decided to cause pain to others in order to avoid pain themselves. Still others move to break contact with anything or anyone who reminds them of the reality of suffering. The worker about the death of a brave ones simply acknowl-

edge the reality of suffering conflict our thinking and con- reads, "He set his face toward and decide to face it head on and overcome its destructive power.

Lent takes the latter route. The stories in the New Testament remind us of how Jesus faced suffering. He was willing to confront it and deal with it. Jesus acknowledged the cause of pain while those around him choose other routes to explain it. God has never promised a life free of suffering in this realm of existence. There are illnesses that we can end in our lifetime if we decide to cease certain behavior. All hate crimes and wars can be ended if we respect the rights of others. Spouse and child abuse will end if we truly love the ones we are given care of. Drug abuse will end if we acknowledge the power of drugs to trol our behavior. But, therein lies the problem—if, we choose.

It is how we think about suffering and respond to it that will dictate its outcome in our

Suffering can be inflicted upon us by external sources, but the choice of response is within our control. One of the greatest statements I heard was from a woman of faith dealing with cancer.

She said, "I am not dieing from cancer, I am living with

She eventually died, but her faith and her response to the illness strengthened many uncertain individuals. She was an inspiration to say the least.

Jesus is our example on how to deal with suffering that is thrown upon us. The text fering in this life as Jesus did.

Jerusalem." He was determined not to allow the suffering he was going to face to deter him from his mission in life. Some of his disciples told him not to go to Jerusalem.

They knew that death possibly awaited him, and they wanted no part of that. They were expecting him to lead the uprising and start the revolution. Jesus instead said that it is not how God plans to bring about the redemption of humanity.

During this Lenten Season, I encourage you to walk with Jesus to Jerusalem and discover that you too can overcome suffering and pain in your life. You have a choice. Choose wisely. In Jerusalem you will experience the resurrection and victory over pain and suf-

### Chapel notes

#### **Morning prayers and reflections**

Bible readings, reflection and prayer will be held Monday mornings through May 19, 6:30 to 7 a.m., at the Aberdeen Area Chapel.

For more information, call Chaplain (Maj.) Ernest L. Vermont, Garrison chaplain, 410-278-

#### Organist/choir director needed

Edgewood Chapel Protestant Congregation is in need of an organist/choir director for 9:15 a.m. Sunday morning service and weekly Wednesday evening choir practices.

Successful candidate will be able to meet the logistical, administrative and programming needs of the Protestant religious musical program. This is a contract position.

For more information, call the APG Chapel, 410-278-4333.

#### **PWOC offers Bible studies**

The APG Protestant Women of the Chapel invite everyone to attend Bible Study every Monday at 7 p.m., or every Thursday at 9 a.m.

On Monday, study Joyce Meyer's, Battlefield of the Mind, Winning the Battle in Your Mind. On Thursday, choose from four new Bible Studies: Restore My Heart, by Denise Glenn; Professional-izing Motherhood, by Jill Savage; Calm My Anxious Heart, by Linda Dillow; or Fruit of the Spirit, by Beth Moore.

Child care is provided on Thursday mornings, but not available on Monday evenings. These studies do not meet on federal holidays or when the schools are closed due to inclement

For more information, call the APG Chapel at 410-278-4333.

#### **Protestant Lenten devotionals**

The APG Post Chapel will hold Protestant Lenten Devotionals in the Social Hall at noon, each Wednesday through April 9. The devotionals will be followed by a light lunch ending at 12:45 p.m. Call 410-278-4333 for lunch reservations two days prior to each day of atten-

Holy Week Devotionals will be held at noon from April 21 to 23 at the Post Chapel. The devotionals will be followed by a light lunch ending at 12:45 p.m. Call 410-278-4333 for lunch reservations two days prior to each day of attendance.

#### **Contemporary worship service**

A new, contemporary worship service will be held 2 to 3:30 p.m. each Sunday at the Edgewood Area Chapel, building E-4620.

Musicians and singers are welcome. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Shawn E. McCammon, 410-436-8695.

#### **Good News Bears Starts May 8**

Good News Bears is a Christian discipleship program for children ages 3 to 11 full of fun, stories, and lots of activities. The "Bears" (children) will have opportunities to earn a T-shirt and badges by completing various requirements.

The group meets at 6:30 p.m. at Skipper's Point in Edgewood.

To pre-register, call Julie McCammon at 410-569-6504.

#### **Women's Group starts** May 8

The Edgewood Area Chapel will host a study that encourages women going through the transition and adjustment of moving. It is based on the book by Susan Miller, "After the Boxes are Unpacked." This 13-week class uses biblical principles and practical how-to's.

Meetings will be held for 13 consecutive Thursday nights beginning May 8, 6:30 to 8:30

The class runs simultaneously with the Good News Bears Club but is a separate function available to anyone who wishes to come.

Location to be announced.

To pre-register, call Julie McCammon at 410-569-6504.

### APG Catholic Community Lenten schedule

#### Lenten schedule **Aberdeen Area Chapel APG Catholic** Community

April 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Confirmation retreat April 9, 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross April 13, 8:30 a.m. Palm Sunday mass April 17, 11:45 a.m. Holy Thursday mass April 18, 11:45 a.m. Good Friday service April 20, 8:30 a.m. Easter Sunday mass **APG Protestant Community** April 6, 10:15 a.m., Children's Easter Program

April 13,10:15 a.m. Palm Sunday Cantata/Service April 17, 6:30 p.m., Living Last Supper April 20,10:15 a.m., Easter Sunday Worship Service **Gospel Community** 20 April, 12:30 p.m. Easter Sunday Worship

#### **Edgewood Area** Chapel

**APG Catholic** Community

Service

April 3, 7 p.m. Stations of the cross April 10, 7 p.m. Stations of the cross April 13, 10:45 a.m. Palm Sunday mass April 17, 7 p.m. HolyThursday mass April 18, 11:45 a.m. Good Friday mass April 19 Easter vigil, 7 p.m. April 20, 10:45 a.m. Easter Sunday mass

**Ecumenical Community** 



April 15, 7 p.m., Edgewood Ecumenical Tenebrae Service

April 16, 7 p.m., Aberdeen Ecumenical Tenebrae Service April 20, 7 a.m., Edgewood

Area Sunrise Service McBride

Field

April 18, noon, Grace United Methodist Church, Aberdeen Good Friday Ecumenical Service

## Community Notes

#### **FRIDAY APRIL 4 BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo will be held at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, 21 North Rogers Street. Doors open at 6 p.m. and bingo begins at 7 p.m. There will be 20 games, door prizes and raffles. Refreshments will be sold. Proceeds will benefit Parent Child Care Association of APG/EA Child Development Center. Tickets cost \$10. For tickets and information call Nancy Hofman, 410-569-9126 or Leeann

#### **BASKET BINGO**

Domanico, 410-836-5618.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Edgewood Area Child Development Center will hold Basket Bingo at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, 21 North Rogers Street, at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 and include 20 games of bingo, door prizes and raffles. Refreshments will be sold; proceeds will benefit Parent Child Care Association of the APG/EA Child Development Center. For information or tickets, call Nancy Hofmann, 410-569-9126 or Leeann Domanico, 410-836-5618.

#### **COUNTRY HOE DOWN**

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors country western dancing the first Friday of the month at the American Legion located on Parke Street in Aberdeen. Dancing is held from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Cost of admission is \$8; cash bar and no lessons. For more information, call 410-272-8318.

#### **SATAURDAY** APRIL 5 **WACVA CHAPTER 70 MEETING**

The Women's Army Corps Veterans' Association Aberdeen Free State Chapter 70 meets at the Aberdeen Senior Center, 11 a.m. Women Army veterans, active duty, National Guard Softball Teams will be held

and reservists are invited to attend as well as women of all branches as associate members.

This meeting includes finalizing plans for the May Anniversary luncheon and for the Perry Point veterans Easter party. Free State Chapter 70 is dedicated to the betterment of Harford County veterans. For more information, call Sheila Smith, chapter president, at 410-273-1687.

#### **SUNDAY APRIL 6 SPAGHETTI DINNER**

Prince of Peace Church, 2600 Willoughby Beach Road, Edgewood, is having their annual Spaghetti Dinner 2 to 6 p.m. Homemade sauce and meatballs, salad and a beverage are included. Cost for adults is \$6, seniors cost \$5 and children (ages 6 to 11) cost \$5. Children 5 and under are free. Call 410-679-5912 for more information.

#### **THURSDAY APRIL 10 WACVA CHAPTER 114 MEETING**

The Chesapeake Beacon, Chapter 114, of the Women's Army Corps Veterans' Association will hold its monthly meeting at the Aberdeen Senior Center, 7 Franklin Street, at 7 p.m. The meeting is open to all women of all ranks serving in the U.S. military Anyone discharged or retired that is interested in joining, should contact Wanda Story, 410-272-5040.

This nonprofit, federally chartered group was organized by "mothers of the Women's Army Corps" in order to ensure women are given their rights as veterans. For more information, visit www.wacva.com.

#### **SATURDAY** APRIL 12 **BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit Jarrettsville Jazz Girls

#### Movies

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50, building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard



#### **DELIVER US FROM EVA** Friday, April 4, 7 p.m. Saturday, April 5, 9 p.m.

Starring: LL Cool J, Gabrielle Union

Eva Dandridge is a very uptight young woman who constantly meddles in the affairs of her sisters and their husbands. Her in-laws, who are tired of Eva interfering in their lives, decide to set her up with someone so she will leave them alone. They end up paying Ray, the local "playboy," \$5,000 to date her. The plan goes by smoothly, but trouble comes when Ray actually falls in love with Eva. (Rated R)

#### THE JUNGLE BOOK 2 (FREE ADMISSION) Saturday, April 5, 1 p.m., 7

Jungle boy Mowgli (voiced by

Osment) decides to forsake civilized village life for the "bare necessities" of the wild

with his old friends. However, the evil tiger Shere Khan is looking for a little payback after Mowgli's last adventure. Trouble's a-brewing. (Rated G)

at the North Harford High School, Pylesville. Bingo begins at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 and are available by calling Tesha Wright, 410-836-3619, or Susan Murk, 410-692-9480.

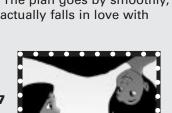
#### VFW POST 6054 PRESENTS THE R&B BAND BADD

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054 presents the rhythm and blues band "BADD," 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. BADD recently opened for the mighty Temptations and the Manhattans. Admission of \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers includes hot and cold buffet.

Dress to impress; anyone wearing jeans, boots or sneakers will not be admitted. For tickets and further information, call the Entertainment Chairman Terry Robinson 410-688-3188 or 410-272-3444.

#### WHO KILLED ROCKY **ROCKFISH?**

Sierra Military Health Services, Inc. and The L Classrooms Foundation will



offer a free Interactive Life Sciences Lab for Region 1 military families. Children in grades four through 8 can participate in an interactive

lab program, "Who Killed

Rocky Rockfish," 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration deadline is April 7. Some activities are conducted outdoors; wear appropriate clothing. Bring a lunch. Reservations are required: via e-mail ssmith@natlhistoricseaport.org or call 410-783-1490, Weinberg Education Center, The Foundation, 802 S. Caroline

Living Classrooms Street, Baltimore. For directions and information, visit www.livingclassrooms.org. Active duty military ID

required for each student

on day of program.

#### LIBRARY

The Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School Library new operating hours are Monday through Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Thursday, noon to 8:45 p.m. and Friday, noon to 4:30 p.m. The library is located in the basement of building 3071. For more information, call 410-278-4991.

#### **LUNCHTIME LECTURE SERIES CONTINUES**

The second lecture in the Lunch Time Lecture series, "The Art and Science of Troubleshooting," will be presented on 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School (formerly the U.S. Army Ordnance Center & Schools) library, building 3071, lower level. The alternate date is April 23. Attendees can bring a lunch.

Guest lecturer Tracy Reeve of SmartFix Corporation will discuss the process of reasoning, acquisition and application of knowledge, and problem-solving methods used in fault diagnosis. Attendees will receive a training certificate. To make a reservation, call 278-4991, or visit the library.

# Morale, Recreation & Welfare

#### APG SCHOOL LIAISON

#### FREE BOOKLETS FOR MILITARY PARENTS

Two booklets that can be helpful to military families experiencing a move are available at the APG School Liaison office.

The booklet, "Personal Peaks," is a resource of words of encouragement and guidance that looks at all the things and emotions that go into a move for military personnel and their family members.

Another booklet, "Let's Move Together," is for children in elementary school, but the message can apply to older children, too. It helps children understand the stress that family members experience before, during and after a move. The story is in cartoon form as told through the eyes of Tom Turtle.

If interested, call Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

#### PARENTS STAYING INVOLVED

Research shows that adolescents do better in school when their parents are involved in their lives, and that education works best when teachers and parents work closely with one another.

Tips for staying involved in children's education:

• Review the ground rules with children at the beginning of the school year such as curfews, limits on television, music, video games on school nights (homework and reading have priority), expectations, and being prepared for school.

- Talk to children about school on a daily basis.
- Monitor and assist children with homework. If no homework, read with them.
- Be familiar with school policies and procedures; review these plus expectations with children.
- Communicate with the children's teacher.
- Visit children's classroom.
- Attend 'Back To School Night' programs during the year. It is important to meet teachers and the administrators, and continue to reinforce the expectations of the teacher and to understand what children are learning. Schedule a parent conference if necessary.
- Attend PTA meetings and become an active member.
- Continue to support children and help them be organized by going over their school schedule and home schedule and looking at their assignments, papers, grades, folders and notebooks, work habits, etc. Talk to them about how their day in school went.
- Limit extra-curricular activities if children seem to have difficulty keeping up with school work.
- Make it clear to children they are expected to do well in
- Chaperone a field trip, dance, or other special activity. • Volunteer time to assist in the school where help is needed.
- All in all, support the teachers and administrators and
- the goals, standards, programs and policies of the child's

### **BOWLING STANDINGS**

#### Tuesday Intramural Week of March 18

Men's high series scratch, Brandon Dusick, 524 Robert Carpenter, 493 Men's high series handicap Brandon Dusick, 727 Johnny Jones, 695 Men's high game scratch Brandon Dusick, 205 Ryan Hendrix, 183 Men's high game handicap Jeffery Bailey, 275 Brandon Dusick, 260 Women's high series scratch Michelle Williams, 329 Women's high series handicap Rachel Carlisle, 651 Michelle Williams, 634 Women's high game scratch Michelle williams, 122 Women's high game handicap Rachel Carlisle, 240

#### Wednesday night mixed Week of March 12

Nicole Washington, 235

Men's high series scratch Stuart Thacker, 651 Don Donnelly, 549 Men's high series handicap Terrance Harris, 725 Tim Anderson, 710 Men's high game scratch Stuart Thacker, 236 Don Donnelly, 208 Men's high game handicap Tim Anderson, 282 Stuart Thacker, 280 Women's high series scratch Barbara Thibault, 496 Kathy Anderson, 477 Women's high series handi-Kathy Anderson, 705 Ann Thacker, 701 Women's high game scratch Kathy Anderson, 188 Marian Nelson, 182

Women's high game handicap

Ann Thacker, 301

Renee Johnson, 271

#### **Thursday National Guard Mixed**

#### Week of March 13

Men's high series scratch Bill Williams, 694 Michael Murphy, 591 Men's high series handicap Phillip Murphy, 748 Joe Montanez, 747 Men's high game scratch Bill Williams, 287 Michael Murphy, 223 Men's high game handicap Frank Mitchell, 286 Myron Cole, 285 Women's high series scratch Shelly Burmeister, 534 Barbara Thibault, 504 Women's high series handicap Lucy Montanez, 816 Mary Jo Smith, 727 Women's high game scratch Shelly Burmeister, 224 Barbara Thibault, 198 Women's high game handicap Lucy Montanez, 293 Shelly Burmeister/Lynn Sims,

#### **Thursday Lunch** League

#### Week of march 20

Men's high series scratch John Brown, 382 Terry Bonine, 366 Men's high series handicap Brad Davis, 463 Tim Dowell, 460 Men's high game scratch Don Donnelly, 207 Dan Snoha, 202 Men's high game handicap Brad Davis, 260 John Brown, 243 Womens high series scratch Dawn Gordner, 329 Chris Lockhart, 305 Women's high series handicap Chris Lockhart, 457 Ronda Taylor, 436 Women's high game scratch Chris Lockhart, 185 Dawn Gordner, 171 Women's high game handicap Chris Lockhart, 261 Jane Fortes, 234

#### **Friday Night Mixed** Week of March 14

Men's high series scratch Richard Trimble, 805 (fantas-Virgil Mills, 584 Men's high series handicap Virgil Mills, 842 Johnny Jones, 734 Men's high game scratch Richard Trimble, 300 Virgil Mills, 215 Men's high game handicap Virgil Mills, 295 Eddie Sabina, 282 Women's high series scratch Tasha Taylor, 560 Ellen Hopkins, 523 Women's high series handicap Tasha Taylor, 771

Lucy Montanez, 697

Lucy Montanez, 211

Ellen Hopkins,270

Christine Wachter, 270

Tasha Taylor, 215

Women's high game scratch

Women's high game handicap

Special congratulations to Richard Trimble in bowling a perfect game of 300 (twelve strikes in a row) and finshing with an 805 scratch series for three games.

#### **Saturday Youth** League (Upcoming

#### Stars) Week of March 8

Boy's high series scratch Chance Gosnell, 137 Boy's high series handicap Chance Gosnell, 575 Boy's high game scratch Chance Gosnell, 57 Boy's high game handicap Chance Gosnell, 203 Girl's high series scratch Elizabeth Kempton, 163 Girl's high series handicap Elizabeth Kempton, 647 Natelie Hanlon, 583 Girl's high game scratch Elizabeth Kempton, 67 Girl's high game handicap Elizabeth Kempton, 222

#### **Saturday Youth Rising Stars**

#### Week of March 8

Boy's high series scratch Bobby Davis, 324 Dauvon Mccormick, 309 Boy's high series handicap Bobby Davis, 705 Eric White, 656 Boy's high game scratch Johnathan Pace, 128 Bobby Davis, 122 Boy's high game handicap John Keegan, 255 Johnathan Pace, 249 Girl's high series scratch Jessell Cons, 313 Magan Pace, 311 Girl's high series handicap Amanda Anderson, 663 Jessell Cons, 654 Girl's high game scratch Jessell Cons, 113 Magan Pace, 112 Girl's high game handicap Jessell Cons, 238 Amanda Anderson, 230

#### Saturday Youth League - Shooting Stars

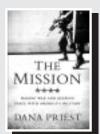
#### Week of March 8

Boy's high series scratch Curtis Swauger, 520 Chad Milton, 488 Boy's high series handicap Chad Milton, 759 Curtis Swauger, 752 Boy's high game scratch Curtis Swauger, 209 Corey Yonce, 194 Boy's high game handicap Curtis Swauger, 306 Chad Milton, 303 Girl's high series scratch Heather Miller, 341 Girl's high series handicap Ashley Taylor, 686 Heather Miller, 647 Girl's high game scratch Heather Miller, 138 Girl's high game handicap Ashley Taylor, 265 Heather Miller, 239

#### **LIBRARY BOOK CORNER**

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., and Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Edgewood Area library is open Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. For information, call 410-436-3589.

A few of the new books available at the APG MWR libraries are:



The Mission: waging war and keeping peace with America's military, by Dana Priest.

The Mission is a boots-on-the-ground account of America's growing dependence on the military to manage world affairs. It describes the clash of culture and purpose through the eyes of soldiers and officers themselves.



Airborne: a combat history of American airborne forces by E. M. Flanagan

All the Way to Berlin: a paratrooper at war in Europe by James Megellas

Warrior Race: a histo-

ry of the British at war



by Lawrence James The Hemingway Book Club of Kosovo by

Paula Huntley





Foxtrot Ridge: a battle remembered by Mark Woodruff

Dark Star Safari: overland from Cairo to Cape **Town** by Paul Theroux

To receive a complete listing of the library's new materials via e-mail and also reserve items electronically, call the library at 410-278-3417.

## Joining the boat club

The Spesutie Island Boating Activity is accepting applications for the 2003 sea- ing lot space for trailer is \$19 son. Membership is open to active duty military, full time Army National Guard, retired military, APG DoD/Nonappropriated Fund civilian employees, retired APG DA civilians, and long term contractors with government ID

Membership requirements include performance of eight hours of work and standing assigned security watches. Members must provide proof of identification, boat registration and liability insurance. Costs are:

- moored boat with parkper foot
- moored boat (only) is \$11 per foot
- boat on trailer in parking lot space is \$8 per foot
- ramp access (only) is \$7.50 per foot

Applications can be picked up at the SIBA Club house, building 36 or at Outdoor Recreation.

Opening for the season on April 12, this is a designated work day for members.

For more information, call 410-278-4124.

### CYS requests survey completion

#### Pat Palazzi

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Child and Youth Services Division must be proactive in determining in advance how it can support soldiers and families during times of mobilization/deployment and other emergency situations.

By filling out the survey and returning it, participants will be helping CYS to be ready to support the needs of the APG community when duty calls.

The time and effort spent filling out this survey will have a direct impact on CYS' ability to provide viable support services for families, when and if the need occurs.

Surveys can be picked up at the PX, commissary and Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic or printed from the APG News Online Web www.apgnews.apg.army.mil.

### **Activities**

#### **Methods of registration**

Registering for any MWR event can be accomplished by visiting the specific facility for the event, mailing in a registration form found in an MWR Program Brochure, visiting the Leisure Travel Office, building 3326, or online at www.apgmwr.com.

#### **Introduction to horseshoe pitching**

This course teaches the fundamentals of pitching horseshoes, scoring and rules for tournament play. Course maintenance will also be covered along with the equipment needed to carry it out. A tournament will be conducted at the conclusion of the classes, which starts April 5 at Hoyle Gym, 10 to 11 a.m. Register by April 3. For more information, call Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-3868 or e-mail charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil.

#### **Pictorial tour of the Cosmos**

Get a closer look on the emerging picture of the violent dynamic universe. This tour will include black holes and exploding stars, and use instruments to paint a picture of violent rays to radio waves. Class will be held April 7 in Russell Gym from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$15 for families. Register by

For more information call Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-3868 or e-mail charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil

#### Introduction to paintball

This activity introduces participants to the basic fundamentals of paintball, learning the techniques and maneuvers employed in tournament play. A tournament with prizes follows the class, which will be held April 12, 9 to 10 a.m. at Robinhood Paintball, Havre de Grace. Cost is \$10; cost for class plus tournament is \$40. Register by April 10. For more information, call Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-3868 or e-mail charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil.

#### Opening day scramble

Opening Day Scramble, featuring a fourplayer Captain's Choice scramble, will be held April 5 with a 9 a.m. shotgun start at Ruggles Golf Course and April 13 with a 1 p.m. shotgun start at Exton Golf Course. Enter as a team or individual registrants will be paired into foursomes. Lunch and prizes will be presented after the tournament. Registration for Ruggles is closed. Register for Exton by April 10. For more information, call Tom Green at 410-278-4794 or e-mail tom.green@usag.apg.army.mil.

#### Cinco de Mayo Nighttime Golf **Tournament**

This is a captain's choice tournament that starts with the first nine holes played before sunset. The second nine holes will be played in total darkness. Glow balls, glow sticks and glow necklaces will be provided, as well as a on May 3 with a 5 p.m. tee off. Register by April 21. Cost for this tournament is \$35 for patrons, \$45 for authorized, and \$55 for the public. For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail her at stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

Mexican Buffet. The tournament will be held

### Spring/summer Gospel Fashion

V & T Collection and APG MWR will present a Spring/Summer Gospel Fashion Show April 12 at the AA Recreation Center, 2 to 4 p.m.

Receive a free Mary Kay facial and be entertained with gospel song and dance. Lite fare and cash bar will be available. Door prizes will be awarded. Tickets cost \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door.

For more information, call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail her at earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil.

Courtesy of OC&S

Service members from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools pose after receiving certificates of appreciation for modeling female uniforms from the past and present at the OCS Salute to Women. From left to right standing, Spc. Patrice Harris, Sgt. Maritza Cisneros, Pvt. 1st Class Adanna Darbeau, Sgt. Voundria Pledger, and Spcs. Fawna Richardson and Kathrine Lipski. From left kneeling are Staff Sgt. Lilia McNeill and Pvt. Camilla Gisa.



## Salute

From front page

women in today's Army are much more involved in more career fields than the days of the Women's Army Corps and the WOWs. She recalled that when she entered the Army, a women had to be 18 years old to join, and if she was under age 21, she needed parental permission.

"The highest rank held by a woman was colonel," she said. But there was only one and whoever held the position had to revert to lieutenant colonel once she left the position.

Crofts said during her first assignment as a command sergeant major for a support battalion at Fort Campbell, Ky., she was approached at a dinner by an older male veteran. "He asked me first if I was a nurse. Then he wanted to know if I worked in per-

sonnel. Finally I told him."

Crofts stated that her heroes are [Elizabeth] Hoisington, the first female general officer; [Betty] Clarke, the first female major general; [Betty] Benson, the first female graduate of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy and the first female command sergeant major, [Heather] Johnson, the first female Old Guard sentinal at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

She noted that today, because of the strides of such women, American society is ready to give the fairer sex a fair chance.

Crofts was presented a Chief of Ordnance coin by Brugh for her presentation.

Several individuals were presented Certificates of Achievement by Col. Paul Meredith, commander of the 61st Ordnance Brigade, for their participation in a workshop sponsored by

the Federal Women's Program in observance of Women's History Month.

Event organizers were Sgts. 1st Class Arbel Connor, OC&S Equal Opportunity adviser; Peggy McCormick, Noncommissioned Officer Academy Equal Opportunity adviser; Rodney Yelder, 61st Ordnance Brigade Equal Oppor-tunity adviser; Lt. Claudette Blacke, operations officer, 16th Ordnance Battalion; Paulette Cantos, training coordinator; and Wanda Story, president of the Women's Army Corps Veteran's Association,

Chapter 114.

Brugh closed the observance asking everyone to keep those soldiers in harms way in their prayers, and especially the soldiers from the 507th Maintenance Company who were missing in action and prisoners of war in Iraq.

### Board

From front page

States.

- Have a GT score of 110 or higher. Pass the Army Physical Fitness Test
- Pass the Army Physical Fitness Te score 180.
  Pass the Scholastic Aptitude Te
- Pass the Scholastic Aptitude Test with a minimum score of 850 or American College Test with a minimum score of 19.
- Have at least 90 semester hours of college study.
- Achieve a score of 80 or higher on the English Comprehension Level Test; if primary language is not English.

• Be at least 18 years old and less than 30 (can waiver age up to 35). Have a complete physical exam six months prior to date of application.

Completed packets must be submitted to the SBCCOM Military Personnel Office not later than May 1. Each application should consist of one packet containing all original documents, and three photocopies of the original packet.

Additional information may be found in Army Regulation 351-5 (Officer Candidate School) or the OCS Web page http://www.armyocs.com/home/.

For OCS application information, call the SBCCOM Adjutant's Office, Vanessa Cefaloni, 410-436-2130/3239 or e-mail milpo@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.

#### LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within

agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should contact Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, to complete a termination form.

### **Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program**

Mary A Banaszak Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement) Mildred T. Becker (surgery) Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia) Gretchen E. Blethen Robert J. Boonstoppel (surgery) (liver transplant) Tammy Budkey Jane E. Calahan (surgery) Patricia D. Choate Geraldine S. Cragg Dawn M. Crouse (surgery) Rene de Pontbriand Fred Dill Messina Enderlein Wayne Erb (wife is ill) Patty Gibson Edgar W. Greer Fern L. Hitchcock (surgery) Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition) Stephen Howard (bone marrow transplant) Beverly King (caring for husband)

William Klein Anita L Koller (care for husband) Carrie L. Lambert Angela R. Little (neck and shoulder injury) William B. McLean (kidney failure) John E. Mogan (surgery) Calvin E. Peake Cecil Pennington (surgery) Karen S Pense Mary E. Pettiway Linda M. D. Queen Michael Reynolds (care of mother) Cheryl L. Roark Teresa L. Shores Sandra M. Wachter (surgery) Michelle L. Watters Beverly A. Werner (surgery) Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant) Ludilina O. Valarao (surgery) (brain tumor removed) Wanda L.Waldon (surgery)

\*Colleen Waller (care for elderly parents)

For information about donating annual leave, call Ronda McKinney at 410-278-8988 or fax 410-278-7652. (\*An asterisk indicates employees working at the APG office of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory. Call Susan Goldberg, 301-394-1080, regarding ARL employees.)



## Marine News

# **USMC** Detachment evaluates Abrams engine simulator

Story and photos by Yvonne Johnson

An agreement between the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' U.S. Marine Corps Detachment and the SmartFix Corporation resulted in an opportunity for the Marines to evaluate an engine simulator for the M1A1 Abrams tank, a device that could result in substantial savings in repair, environmental and

Tracy J. Reeve, a SmartFix engineer, designed and built the AGT-1500 Gas Turbine Engine Simulator while working for the U.S. Army Research Laboratory.

When the program was completed, he offered the Marines the opportunity to evaluate it as a training device.

Reeve said the simulator uses actual hardware from the Abrams engine's fuel management system.

"Put simply, the simulator makes the engine's computer think it is connected to an engine, when in reality, what the computer "sees" is the simulated sensor inputs," Reeve said.

teaching engine operations and diagnostics," he added. Staff Sgt. Daniel Baumgardner, course manager of the M1A1

Technicians Course, is evaluating the system. Baumgardner said the simulator could drastically reduce the wear and tear on actual engines used for instruction, eliminate

environmental concerns, and improve students' diagnostic skills. "Engine repair is the major cost driver of Abrams tank ownership," Baumgardner said. "Using the simulator reduces the number of times a live engine has to be used for training. We

can't entirely eliminate the need for training on live engines, but we can hold more in-depth training without worrying about an inserted fault damaging the engine."

Baumgardner said using the simulator would improve safety and eliminate environmental concerns such as elevated noise levels and fuel and oil and consumption, as well as save on maintenance costs and repair parts.

In addition, the classroom environment provides better opportunities for students to work on the equipment, he added.

"When you have several students with an engine running, someone may not be able to see or hear the instruction," he said. "With the simulator, every student gets to work on the equipment."

Plus, protective mode faults that occur rapidly on a live engine can be "slowed down" and observed in real-time, he added.

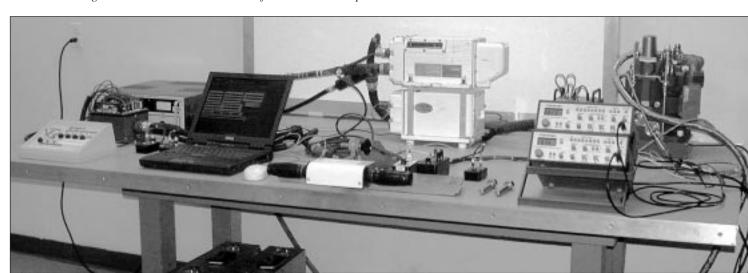
"The engine simulator improves the diagnostic expertise of the mechanic by providing an environment that facilitates an understanding of engine operation from the perspective of the fuel management system," Reeve said. "It drastically reduces dependence on live engines for training."

He noted that simulated system faults could be referenced to the training manual's troubleshooting guidelines and the parts that make up the system are of minimal cost in comparison to the cost of acquiring and maintaining an Abrams power pack [engine-transmission combination], as most of the parts can be found within the military supply system.

Marine Corps and Army training organizations.



From left, contractor Tracey Reeve, Marine Gunnery Sgt. Walter Circles and Staff Sgt. Daniel Baumgardner observe simulated fault readings on the Gas Turbine Engine Simulator that Reeve created for the Marine Corps Maintenance Course.



Reeve said he would like to see the simulator adopted by The AGT-1500 Gas Turbine Engine Simulator, developed by Tracey Reeve of SmartFix Corporation sits in the Marine Corps' Tank Technician course training area.

## Marine headquarters



Photo by SGT. JOSEPH R. CHENELLY, USMC

Marines don chemical protective suits ands masks in response to an alarm at Camp Commando, Kuwait, March 20. The Marines are with the I Marine Expeditionary Force, and are deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sgt. Colin Wyers

I Marine Expeditionary Force CAMP COMMANDO, Kuwait - An unidentified Iraqi missile struck outside Camp Commando, Kuwait, March 20 at

approximately 10:28 a.m. Monitor and survey teams were dispatched to the impact site, where no signs of biological munitions were found. No Marines were injured or killed.

Camp Commando is the headquarters of the I Marine Expeditionary Force, which is deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sgt. Christopher Ransom, from Coopersville, Mich., was laying communications wire when he heard the missile.

"It sounded like a jet coming in," said Ransom, a field wireman with Company A, 8th Communications Battalion. "We looked over to see the jet, and we saw a small flash and lots of dust and smoke. Our instincts kicked in. We donned our gas masks, and we got in the bunkers."

Inside the bunkers, some Marines and sailors nervously traded jokes, while others remained silent. All waited for the words 'all clear' to come over the base's loudspeakers.

"I was scared, nervous," said Cpl. Joshua Honesto, from La Grange, Calif. "Everybody was breathing hard. We were all listening to what was going on in the sky."

More alarms sounded later in the day, sending leathernecks scurrying to the bunkers after donning their M-40 field protective masks.

Undaunted, the I Marine Expeditionary Force continued to carry out the mission throughout the day's interruptions.

## A 'gift of groceries' can help military families

**Bonnie Powell** 

DeCA

Deployments are on the rise, Guard and Reserve personnel are being activated by the thousands, and the upheaval in the lives of military families can involve economic needs as well as emotional.

Sometimes the need is long term, such as the loss of a higher paying civilian paycheck. And sometimes the need is temporary, such as a deployment that takes place before family finances are in order.

More than ever, average Americans are jumping in to help military families with donated services, money and now - groceries.

For over 135 years, military families have been able to put commissary shopping on the top of their list of most valued military benefits. But for the first time, the average American can help military families with the "Gift of Groceries," a gift certificate program that

allows anyone to purchase commissary gift cer- military families in need. tificates through http://www.commissaries.com or through a toll-free number. The certificates can be donated to military families through charitable organizations or given directly to military friends and family, but only authorized shoppers can spend them at any of the nearly 280 commissaries serving the U.S. armed services worldwide.

"Commissaries can save shoppers an average of 30 percent or more, so it's a valuable benefit for members of our armed forces, their families and retirees," said Defense Commissary Agency director, Air Force Maj. Gen. Michael P. Wiedemer. "The gift certificate program started out as a customer service but it seems to be evolving into much more."

Since the program began in the fall of 2002, such worldwide charities as the Air Force Aid Society, the USO and Fisher House Foundation have agreed to accept donated certificates for an equivalent amount of groceries at a retail

Military chaplains' funds purchased over \$500,000 for the holidays, but now civilian organizations that want to help are getting involved too.

"We want to support military families through Operation Homefront," said Linda Jo Reynolds, assistant to Pastor Leo Giovinetti at Mission Valley Christian Fellowship. Operation Homefront is a San Diego-area effort to support local military families. Radio station KOGO and Cinchouse, a local nonprofit organization of military spouses, are spearheading Operation Homefront.

"We heard they were accepting grocery certificates," said Reynolds. "So we thought since it was for the military, why not donate commissary gift certificates?" The fellowship donation was \$25,000.

"You would need about \$35,000 to purchase

store," said DeCA Deputy Director Patrick B. Nixon.

"That kind of additional purchasing power is what the commissary benefit is all about for military families."

Fisher House Foundation was recently added to the list of major charities that accept donated certificates. The foundation operates 31 "homes away from home" to accommodate family members tending to hospitalized loved ones at major military medical facilities worldwide. Each Fisher House has a large, modern kitchen and space to store groceries. "Families often face additional, unexpected expenses when a relative is hospitalized," said foundation Vice Chairman Ken Fisher. "Being able to provide them with commissary gift certificates will lessen their stress, enabling them to give full attention to their loved one."

Fisher Houses in the area are located at

See GROCERIES, page 13

## **APG lifter breaks national record**

Yvonne Johnson APG News

A weight lifter with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security broke the national record in bench press for his weight category during the World Natural Power-lifting Federation National competition in Beaver Falls, Penn., March 22.

Matt Long, a military policeman, pressed 415 pounds in the 198-pound category to break the record. Long also finished first in his weight class and won best overall lifter during the competition.

He said he exceeded his own expectations in achieving the milestone.

"The meet was the best I've ever done," Long said. "I went to qualify for the nationals and decided to go for the record."

With a previous maximum lift of 405 pounds, Long said the challenge was to maintain his focus throughout the competition.

"Powerlifting means you have to compete in three events, the bench press, deadlift and squat," Long said. "It's very exhausting but with ample rest periods in between."

Long began lifting in middle school to "get bigger for football." He said his love for lifting eventually over shadowed his love for football. He works out regularly in the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center with several other lifters who compete regularly within the WNPLF.

"We prefer this organization because it stresses no drugs," Long said. "It's all natural, pure strength."

He added that two percent of all competitors undergo

drug testing, including those going for records.

Long's wife Kim and his 2year old daughter attend every meet. He said his wife has also begun lifting.

"She likes it. It's a great stress reliever and it promotes a healthy lifestyle," Long said. "We're both health conscious."

A native of Severna Park, Md., Long has been on active duty five years and at APG for two. He said his future goals include placing in the top 10 lifters in the world and looking into All Army competition.

"I'm still learning," Long said. "At every meet I meet trainers who offer tips. A good partnership base like the one we have here helps also."

He recommended that anyone interested in getting into the sport "start out slow."

"There's a lot to learn. I've been doing this for 15 years and I still don't know everything," Long said.

He attributed a lot of his success to his workout partner. Allen Graves, who also competed in the same category during the Pennsylvania meet. Graves pressed 325 pounds, squatted 460 pounds and dead lifted 500 pounds.

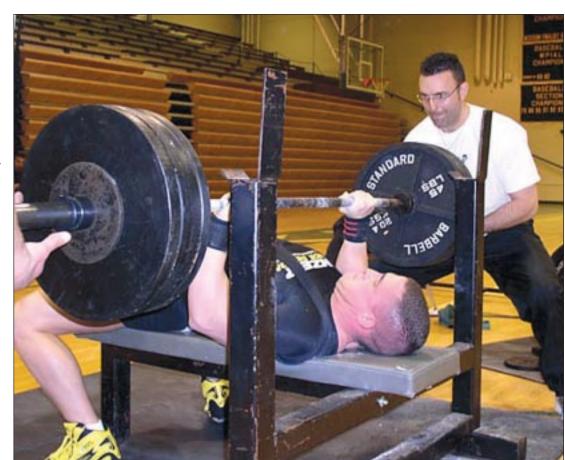
Long, who squatted 630 pounds, said his goal is to squat 700, bench press 500 and deadlift 700.

Involuntarily extended one year due to the Army's Stop Loss program, Long said the extension gives him more time to fine-tune his skills.

"If I'm going to be around an extra year, I might as well be doing something I enjoy," he said.

Photos by KIM LONG

Matt Long, a military police officer with the APG Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, breaks the national bench press record for the 198-pound category with a 415-pound press during the World Natural Powerlifting Federation National competition in Beaver Falls, Penn., March 22.





Grimacing from the pressure, Matt Long completes a 640-pound deadlift, the final event in the daylong meet in which he finished first in his class and was named best overall lifter.



Long maintains a successful 630-pound squat, more than twice his weight, and the first of three required events for national competition.

### **Volleyball update**

The following intramural volleyball games are scheduled for the week of April 3 to 9.

#### **American Division**

**Schedule** 

April 3 6:30 p.m., 1/246th vs. Company E 16th 7:30 p.m., NCOA vs. Company B 16th 8:30 p.m., Company A 16th vs. Company C 16th April 7 6:30 p.m., USMC vs. Company C 16th 7:30 p.m., USAF vs. HHC 16th 8:30 p.m., Company B 16th vs. 1/246th April 8

8:30 p.m., 1/246th vs. Company C 16th April 9 6:30 p.m., NCOA vs. USMC 7:30 p.m., Company B 16th vs. USAF 8:30 p.m., Company A 16th vs. HHC 16th

#### **Edgewood Division**

**Schedule** April 7

vs. HHC 16th

6:30 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. **CHPPM** 7:30 p.m., MRICD vs. Company B 143rd 8:30 p.m., Company A 143rd vs. MRICD#2 April 9 6:30 p.m., MRICD#2 vs. HHC 143rd 7:30 p.m., Company C 143rd vs. MRICD 8:30 p.m., CHPPM vs.

Company B 143rd

## TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy begins

As of March 1, the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy program replaced the National Mail Order Pharmacy program as the prescription mail order pharmacy benefit for Department of Defense Military Health System beneficiaries. The TRICARE pharmacy benefit and co-payments remain the same - only the program name and benefit manager have changed.

Express Scripts Inc., a leading benefit prescription manager in the United States, is the new TMOP benefit manager. To be eligible for the new pharmacy benefit, the sponsor and family member must both be enrolled and eligible in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

Members of the National Guard and Reserve and their family members are also eligible for TMOP if the sponsor is on federal (Title 10 or Title 32) active duty orders for more than 30 days and their DEERS information is up-to-date. TRICARE eligibility for sponsors and family members is effective on the date of activation on the sponsors' orders.

"Under TRICARE, beneficiaries have three options for filling their prescriptions. They can use a military treatment facility, a TRICARE retail network pharmacy, or TMOP," said Army Col. William Davies, director, DoD Pharmacy programs.

Prescription medications filled under TMOP cost \$3 for a 90day supply for generic medications, and \$9 for a 90-day supply for most brand-name medications. Prescriptions filled using a retail network pharmacy cost \$3 for a 30-day generic supply and \$9 for a 30-day supply for most brand-name medications.

We want beneficiaries who have long-term medication needs to consider using the mail order program. It provides up to a 90day supply of most medications for a single co-payment, whereas they only receive a 30-day supply for a single co-payment in the retail network pharmacy system," Davies said.

Before a prescription can be filled, each beneficiary must complete a one-time Express Scripts Registration Form and return it to Express Scripts for processing. The registration form is available online at http://www.express-scripts.com or may be picked up at any military treatment facility or regional TRI-CARE Service Center.

A TRICARE Service Center directory is available online at http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tricareservicecenters/default.cfm.

The TMOP registration form, new prescription and payment (by credit card, check or money order) should be returned to the address provided on the registration form. The beneficiary's name; the sponsor's Social Security number, address, and telephone number; and the provider's name, address and telephone should be clearly written on each prescription submitted. Express Scripts can mail prescriptions to any U. S. postal address or APO/FPO address (except a private foreign address) overseas. Sponsors and family members assigned to an embassy without an APO/FPO address must use their official Washington, D.C., embassy address to receive prescription medications. Prescriptions for beneficiaries residing overseas must be prescribed by providers who are licensed to practice in the United

Deliveries for locations within the United States require approximately five to seven days to process. Additional time may be required for prescription medications delivered overseas.

Beneficiaries covered by a pharmacy benefit under other health insurance may only use TMOP if their OHI does not cover the medication they need, or if the pharmacy benefit under the OHI plan has been exhausted.

If the medication required is covered under TMOP, Express Scripts will fill the prescription as long as the beneficiary has no other pharmacy benefit available or until the beneficiary's pharmacy benefit is renewed under the OHI.

Beneficiaries may check the status of their new or refill prescription orders anytime at http://www.express-scripts.com or by calling toll free, 1-866-DoD-TMOP, or 1-866-363-8667. Active duty sponsors may verify or update DEERS information for themselves or their family members by contacting or visiting their local military identification card issuing facility. Sponsors may locate the nearest military personnel office or ID card facility on the DEERS Web site at http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/ to verify DEERS eligibility. Sponsors may also verify DEERS eligibility by calling DEERS toll free at 1-800-538-9552.

NOTE: More TMOP and TRICARE pharmacy related information is available at http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/tmop.cfm.

### Groceries

7:30 p.m., Company E 16th

6:30 p.m., NCOA vs.

Company A 16th

From page 12

Walter Reed Army Medical center I & II, Andrews Air Force Base and National Naval Medical Center I & II in Bethesda.

The gift certificate program is made possible through a business agreement with CertifiChecks Inc., at no cost to DeCA or the federal government. A standard charge covers the costs of handling, printing, and mailing of up to 20 certificates - as long as all are going to the same address.

Additional charges may apply for bulk orders or special delivery. When a purchasselects to donate, CertifiChecks sends the donated certificate to the designated charity.

"The donation of commissary gift certificates to military families has been tremendous so far," said Mike Baskerville, president of vice CertifiChecks Inc. "Giving the

'gift of groceries' has been embraced by the public and business world alike as a wonderful way to support American men and women in the military." The Defense Commissary

Agency operates a worldwide chain of nearly 280 commissaries providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families. Authorized patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5 percent surcharge, which covers the costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones. Shoppers save an average of more than 30 percent on their purchases compared to commercial prices - savings worth more than \$2,400 annually for a family of four. A core military family support element, and a valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families, and help recruit and retain the best and brightest men and women to serve their country.

#### Veterinarian services available at APG

VTF

The APG Veterinary Treatment Facility is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The VTF is closed on Saturday, Sunday and holidays. During these hours customers may purchase non-prescription pet items, register pets on post, obtain copies of pet records and conduct other administrative business. No pets are seen during these hours, except on specified clinic days.

Clinic days will be held April 4, 7, 16 and 23. Clinic hours are from 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. by appointment only. Clinic services are available to active and retired military and their immediate fam-

ily members. (Authorized patrons of the PX and Commissary may use the facili-

A walk-in clinic is not planned for April; May is tentative.

There are five adult cats available for adoption, ages from around 9 months to around 4 years old.

Anyone may adopt a pet. This also applies to civilians living in the local area who are not employed by the govern-

Call the VTF at 410-278-3911/4604 to schedule an appointment or obtain any additional information.

